

March 13, 2013

Press Release

Jefferson County Flood Risk Information Open House Scheduled

General public provided opportunity to find out more about floodplain management in their community

Madison – Representatives from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), in cooperation with the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), will be hosting a Flood Risk Information Open House on **Tuesday, March 26** beginning at **6:00 p.m.** at the **Lake Mills Community Center, in the Community Center Room, 200 B Water Street, Lake Mills, WI.** This Open House will provide the public with an opportunity to review a recently completed preliminary Flood Insurance Study (FIS) and its accompanying preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) that include base flood information and areas subject to significant flood hazards on select streams in the Rock River Watershed within Jefferson County. *Please note that only areas impacted by the Rock River Watershed restudy are affected by the new FIS and set of FIRMs.* Also included in the FIS and the FIRMs is information utilized by public officials when permitting development in the floodplain. Please note, there will **not** be a presentation at the Open House, rather this is an opportunity to view the preliminary maps and FIS in preparation for the upcoming 90-day appeal period.

The Open House will be staffed with representatives from various local and state agencies, to provide you the most current information about flood risk, flood insurance, floodplain development regulations, and the process for floodplain mapping within Jefferson County communities. New preliminary floodplain maps have been prepared and will be on display. Once the maps become effective in approximately one year, these maps will be used by floodplain permit officials, builders and developers, lenders, realtors, insurance agents and the general public to determine flood risk, develop mitigation measures, and encourage wise and responsible risk management decision-making.

Property owners, realtors, lenders, and insurance agents are encouraged to attend and take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about flood risk and hazard mitigation within their community. If you have any questions regarding this meeting, please contact G. Fritz Statz, at (608) 266-2709 or Gary Heinrichs at (608) 266-3093, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Floodplain Planners.

FEMA prepares the nation for all hazards and manages federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident. FEMA also initiates mitigation activities, trains first responders, works with state and local emergency managers, and manages the National Flood Insurance Program and the U.S. Fire Administration. FEMA became part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security on March 1, 2003.